

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IOE-00
/069 W

-----231412 011654 /41

O 231346Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9963

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 05324

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: UN SHRUM UR PFOR UNHRC

SUBJ: BUKOVSKI LETTER TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

1. AT THE REQUEST OF THE FRENCH ORGANIZATION FOR THE
DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, WE ARE FORWARDING AN EMBASSY
TRANSLATION OF THE LETTER SOVIET DISSIDENT BUKOVSKI
HAS SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE UNHCR. THE FRENCH
ACTIVISTS INFORM US THAT UNHCR DISCUSSION OF SOVIET
VIOLATIONS IS SLATED FOR THIS AFTERNOON.

2. BEGIN TRANSLATION:

MR. ALEXANDER BOSOVICH
PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
PALACE OF NATIONS
GENEVA SWITZERLAND

MR. CHAIRMAN:

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THE COMMISSION WHICH YOU ARE HEADING IS CURRENTLY
EXAMINING VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS OCCURRING IN VARI-
OUS COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

THE GENERAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, RATIFIED
BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 10 DECEMBER
1948, IS NOT, FROM THE STRICTLY JURIDICAL POINT OF VIEW,

BINDING UPON GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED IN THE UNITED NATIONS. HOWEVER, THE DECLARATION MORALLY COMPELS THESE GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE THEIR INTERNAL LAWS CONFORM WITH THE PRINCIPLES LAID OUT IN THE DECLARATION AND TO GIVE DUE RESPECT TO THESE PRINCIPLES.

UNFORTUNATELY, IN THE SOVIET UNION, THESE PRINCIPLES ARE PROCLAIMED ONLY ON PAPER. THE TEXT OF THE DECLARATION WAS NOT WIDELY AND OPENLY DISSEMINATED IN THE USSR. MOREOVER, KGB OFFICIALS NOT INFREQUENTLY CONFISCATED THE TEXT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS DECLARATION DURING THEIR SEARCHES. SUCH CONFISCATIONS STILL OCCUR IN THE CAMPS AND PRISONS.

THE SAME FATE ALSO BEFELL THE HUMAN RIGHTS PACTS. DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE PACTS ARE RATIFIED AND HAVE THE FORCE OF LAW, THEIR PRINCIPLES ARE NOT PROMULGATED AND ARE NOT REFLECTED IN THE INTERNAL LEGAL AND POLITICAL PRACTICES, WITH WHICH THEY ARE INCOMPATIBLE.

WERE I NOW TO TRY TO COMPILE A FULL LIST OF CASES KNOWN TO ME IN OUR COUNTRY OF PERSECUTIONS OF THOSE FULFILLING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE GENERAL HUMAN RIGHTS DECLARATION, AND PARTICULARLY THOSE OBEYING THE SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF ARTICLE 19 OF THE DECLARATION, THE LIST WOULD BE TOO LONG. BESIDES THE RECENT ARRESTS OF MEMBERS OF THE MOSCOW AND UKRAINIAN SOCIAL GROUPS BACKING THE EXECUTION OF THE HELSINKI ACCORDS, YURIY ORLOV, ALEKSANDR GINZBURG, MIKOL RUDENKO, AND OLESYA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIKHIY, I WOULD LIKE TO CITE SEVERAL OTHER CASES WHICH GIVE RISE TO PARTICULAR ALARM: SEMEN GLUZMAN, PSYCHIATRIST, CAMP VS 389/35, PERM OBLAST; SERGEY KOVALEV, BIOLOGIST, CAMP VS 389/36, PERM OBLAST; VALENTIN MOROZ, HISTORIAN AND WRITER, CAMP ZHKH 385/1, MORDOVSK ASSR; IGOR OGURTSOV, ORIENTALIST, CAMP VS 389/35, PERM OBLAST; BORIS YEVDOKIMOV, HISTORIAN, DNEPROPETROVSK PSYCHIATRIC PRISON; GABRIEL SUPERFIN, LITERARY FIGURE, CULTURAL HISTORIAN, VLADIMIR PRISON.

I, MYSELF, SUFFERED PERSECUTION FOR MY CONVICTIONS AND FOR BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, MOST RECENTLY BEING SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS IN THE CONCENTRATION CAMP AND FIVE YEARS' EXILE.

BETWEEN THE DIRECT PHYSICAL TORTURE OCCURRING IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES, AND THE PERSECUTION METHODS USED IN THE USSR, INCLUDING PSYCHIATRIC TORTURE AND THE RAPE

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9964

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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OF THE SOUL WITH THE AID OF HUNGER AND FORCED SLAVE
LABOR, THERE IS MUCH IN COMMON. INASMUCH AS YOUR
COMMISSION HAS NOW GATHERED TO STUDY JUST THESE
QUESTIONS, I ASK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN, TO GIVE ME THE
OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR BEFORE THE MEMBERS OF YOUR
COMMISSION AS A WITNESS. THE PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN
YOUR COMMISSION GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO HEAR ME AND
OTHERS OF MY COUNTRYMEN, FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS
WHO ARE NOW IN THE WEST.

I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER EVIDENCE BOTH ON
INDIVIDUAL CASES AND ON THE VIOLATION OF THE OVERALL
RIGHTS OF MAN, TO WHICH A SIGNIFICANT PART OF SOVIET
CITIZENRY IS NOW SUBJECT.

I WOULD REMIND YOU THAT RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF
MAN AND THE BASIC FREEDOMS IS A PRINCIPLE NOT ONLY OF
THE GENERAL HUMAN RIGHTS DECLARATION, BUT ALSO OF THE
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS (NO. 1-3), AND THAT
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CONSEQUENTLY THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO
ESTABLISH THE PRESENCE OF SUCH VIOLATIONS, BOTH
INDIVIDUAL AND SYSTEMATIC, AND TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS
IN RELATION TO THE VIOLATING GOVERNMENT.

PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. CHAIRMAN, EXPRESSIONS OF MY
ESTEEM FOR YOU.

(SIGNED) V. BUKOVSKI

VLADIMIR BUKOVSKI
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END TRANSLATION
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